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Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



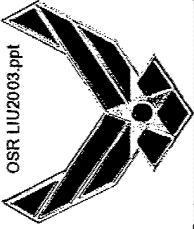
AFOSR Program Review

8 Sept. 2003

C. T. Liu

AFRL/PRSM

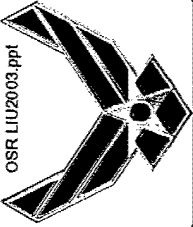
Edwards AFB CA.



Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



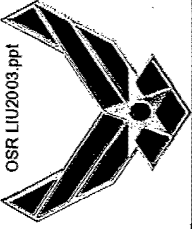
- **Objectives:**
 - Obtain a fundamental understanding of the tensile and fracture behavior of nano composite materials.
 - Develop a microstructure and statistical based technology to evaluate the inherent material quality.
- **State of the Art:**
 - Uniaxial tensile and combustion characteristics tests were conducted.
 - Fracture behavior not studied.
- **Approaches:**
 - Multi-scale experimental, analytical, and numerical modeling analyses
 - Damage mechanics, experimental mechanics, fracture mechanics, and statistical mechanics
- **Applications:**
 - Strategic and tactical missile systems.



Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



- **Past Year Accomplishments:**
 - Conducted strain measurements on two matrix materials (Solithane 113 and TPEG) and a composite material (TPEG and 10% by weight of 6 micron AL particles).
 - Investigated the failure mechanisms in the three materials.
 - Investigated microstructural change and damage mechanisms in a solid propellant under incremental strain conditions.
 - Conducted computer simulation of damage initiation and evolution processes in a solid propellant.
- **Research Payoff:**
 - Provide a fundamental understanding of the role of nano size particles on the deformation and damage processes as well as crack growth behavior.
 - Provide guidance for developing high strength nano composite materials.
- **Related Research Program:**
 - SERDP Green Missile Program (P.I. Dr. T. Hawkins; AFRL/PRSP)



Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



Uniqueness of Research:

- **Unique Material (dual function and highly filled multi-size particles material).**
- **Account for microstructural effect on tensile and crack growth behavior.**
- **Account for local time-dependent behavior in crack growth simulation.**
- **Multi-scale microstructure controlling factors for damage and crack growth.**
- **Bridge the gap between meso and macro analyses.**

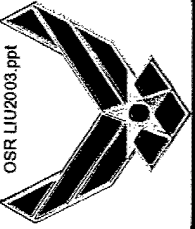


Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



Success Story:

- There is no success story yet, because this four-year program just started in FY 03.

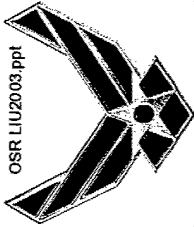


Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



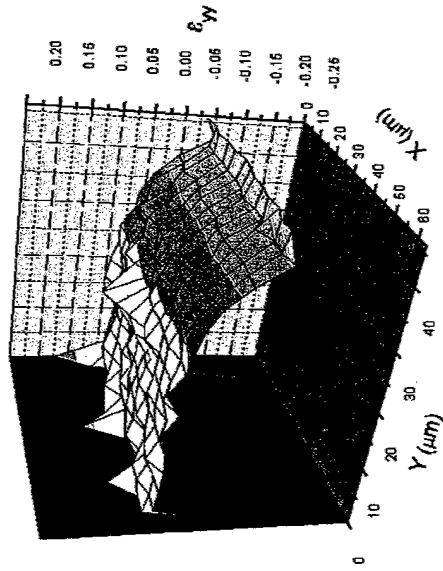
Applications:

- The developed techniques can be used to formulating high performance solid propellants for future strategic and tactical missile systems.

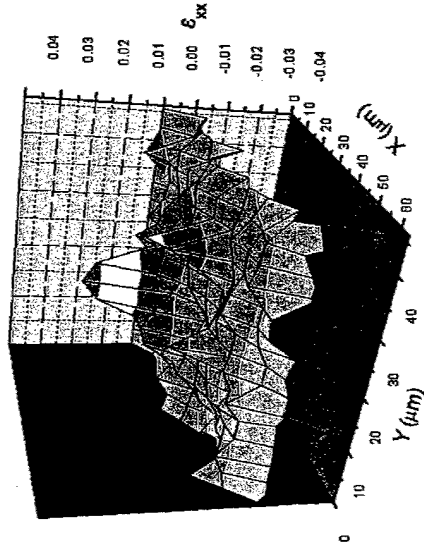


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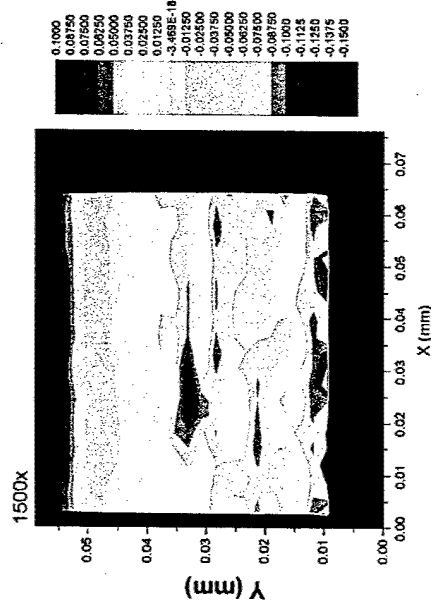
Strain Distributions at 1500X (Solthane 113)



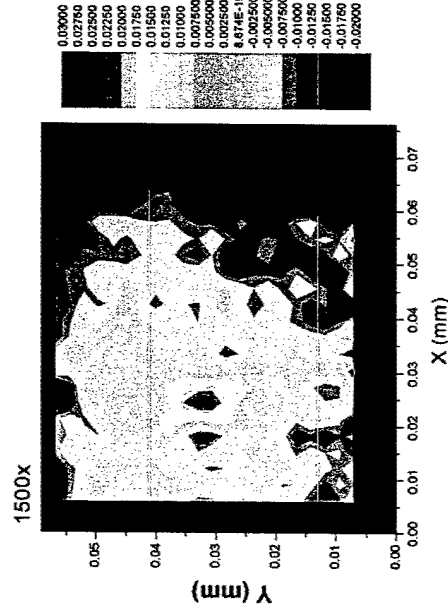
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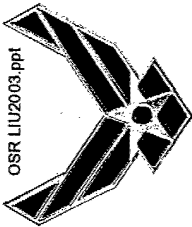
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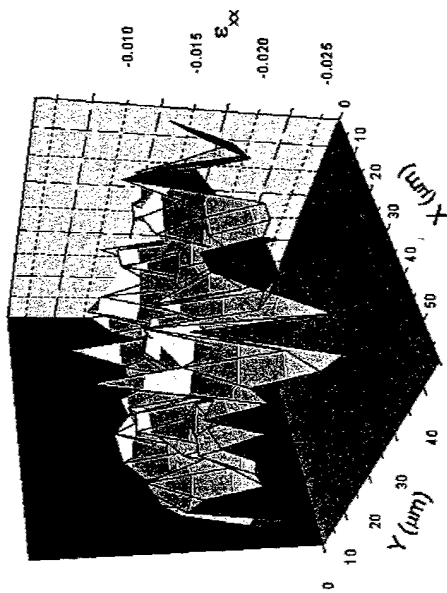
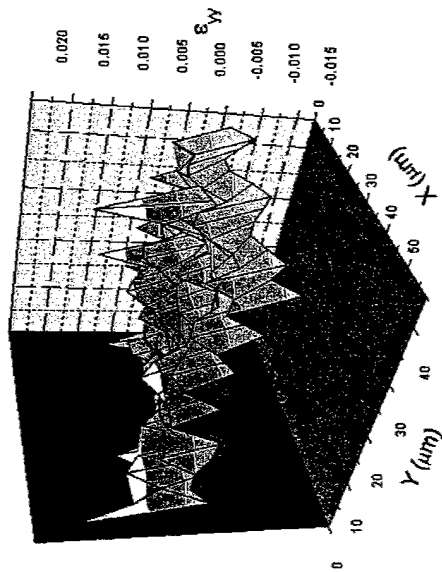
ϵ_{yy} 2-D



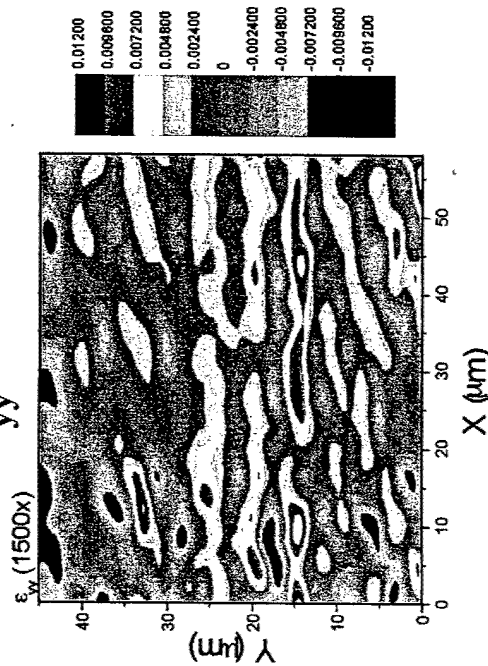
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Strain Distributions at 1500X (TPEG)

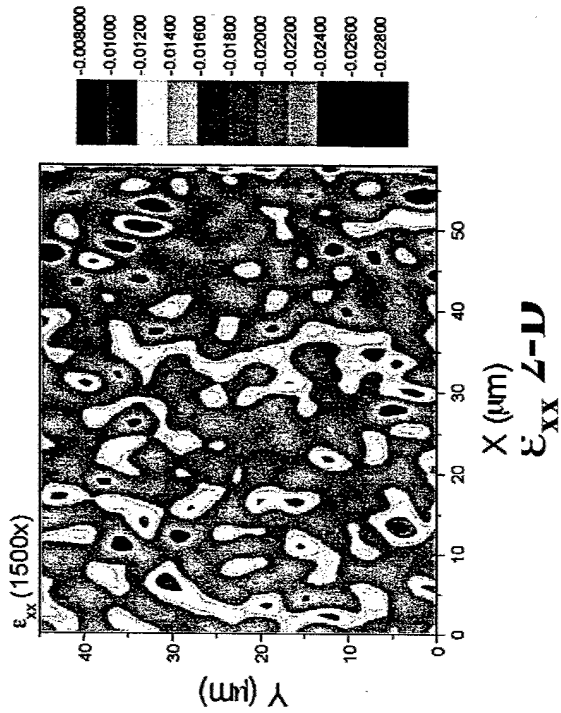


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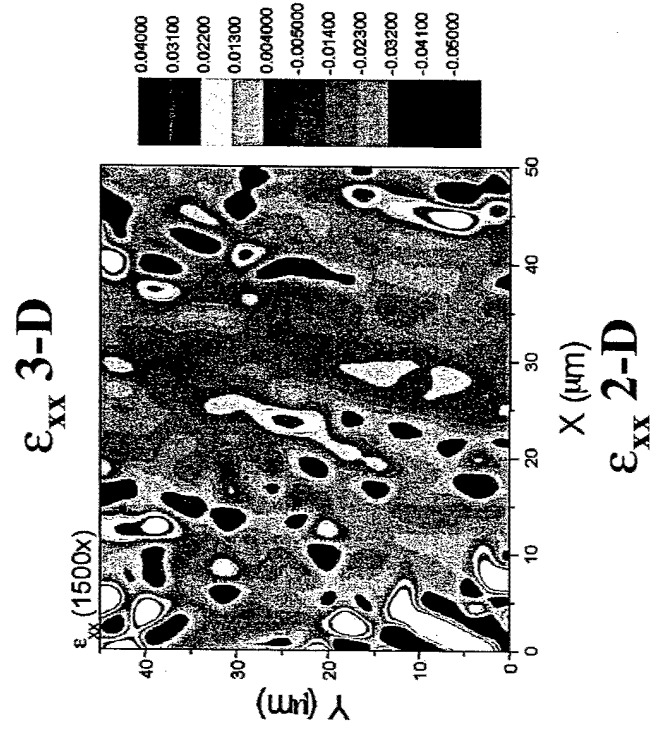
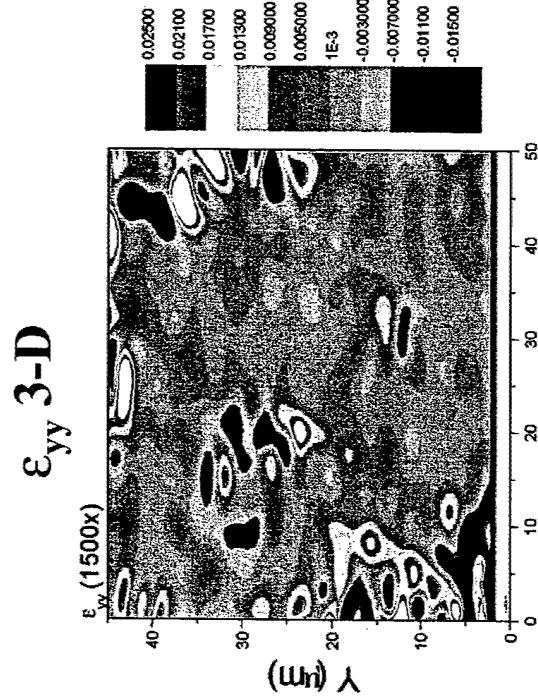
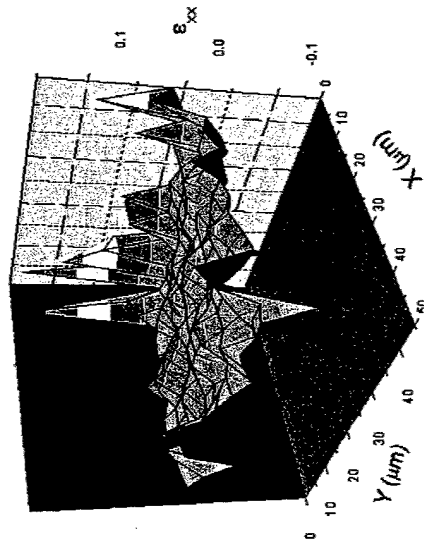
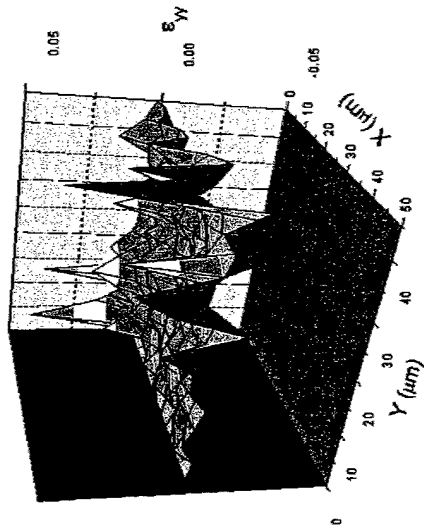
ϵ_{yy} 2-D

ϵ_{xx} 3-D

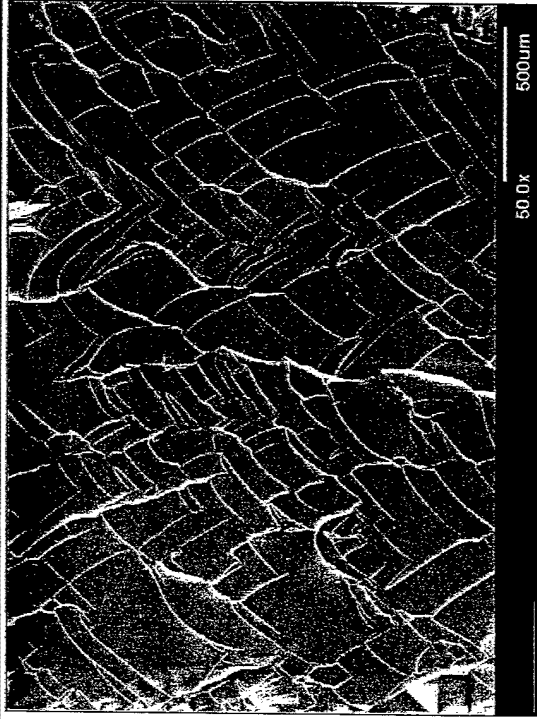


ϵ_{xx} 2-D

Strain Distributions at 1500X (Composite Material)



Fracture Surfaces



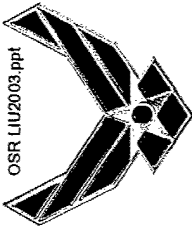
(Solithane 113)



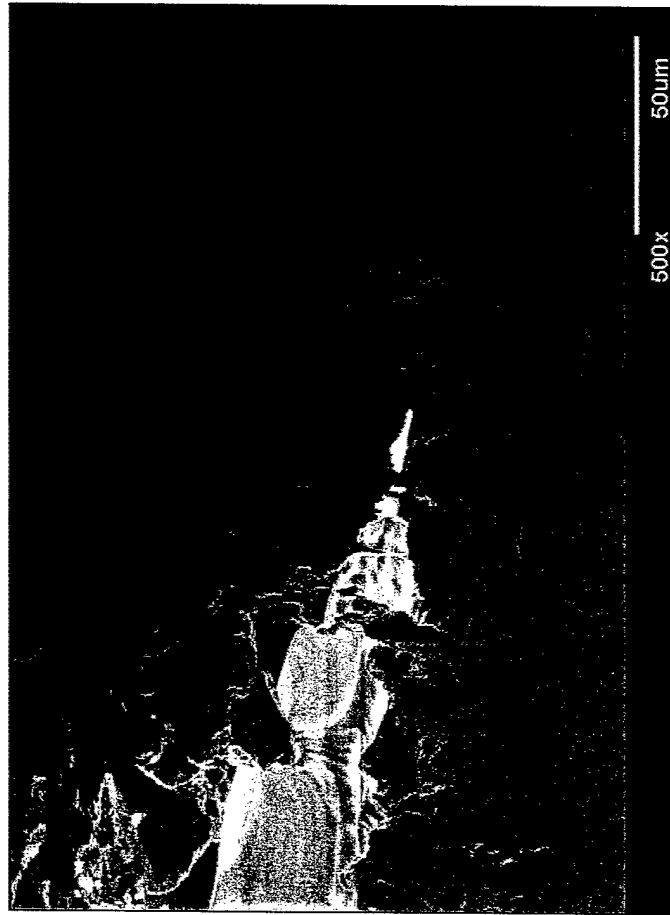
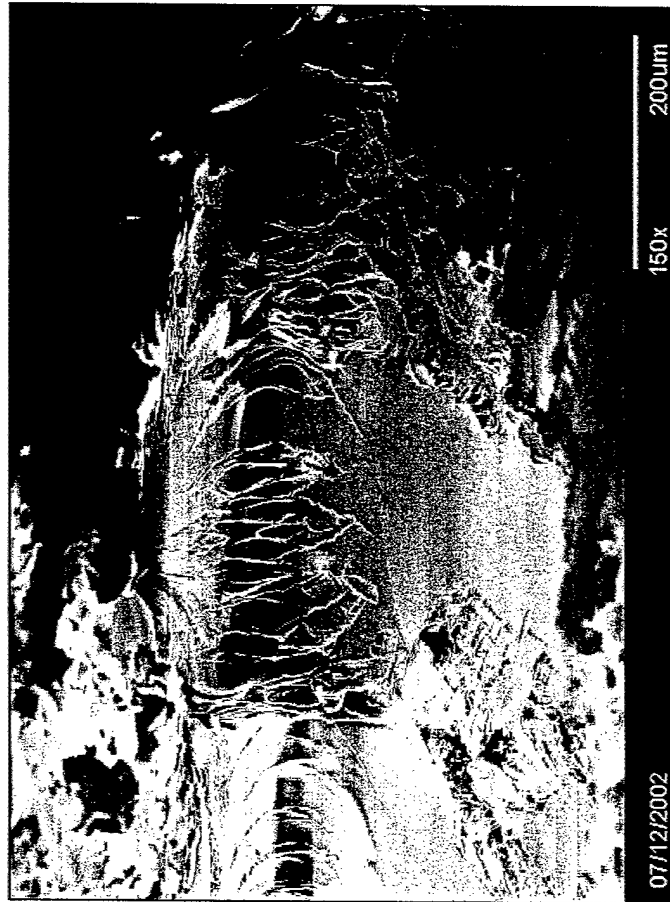
(TPEG)



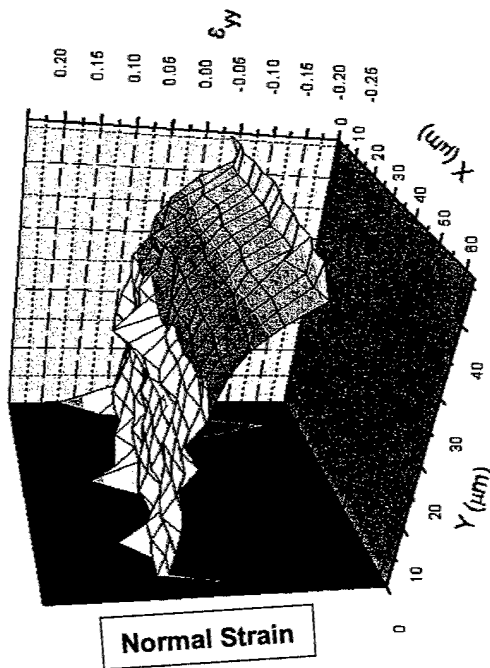
(Composite Material)



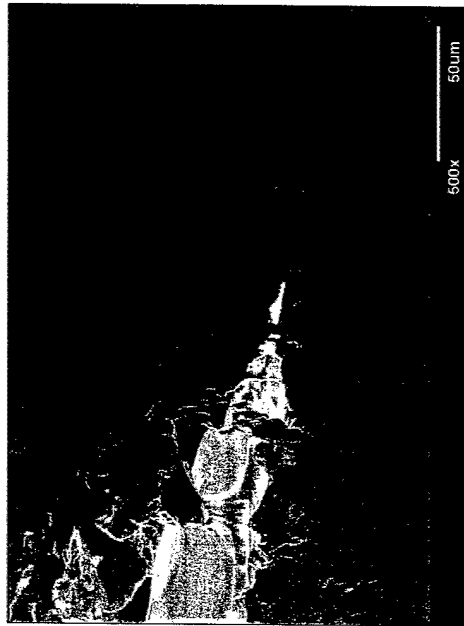
Local Deformation and Failure Mechanisms (Solithane 113)



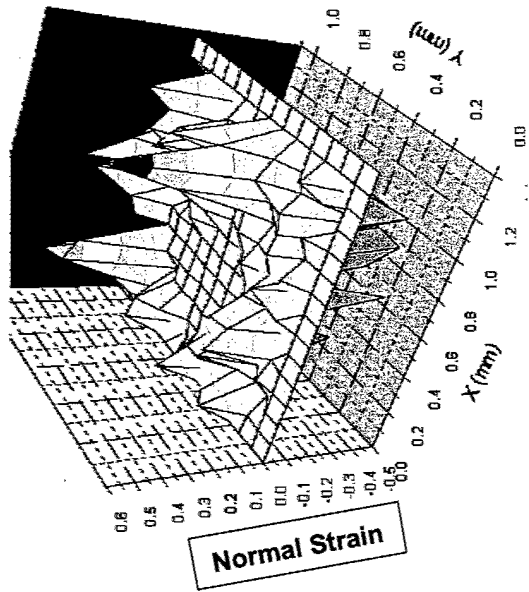
Mechanisms and Strain Distribution (Solithane 113 and a Solid Propellant)



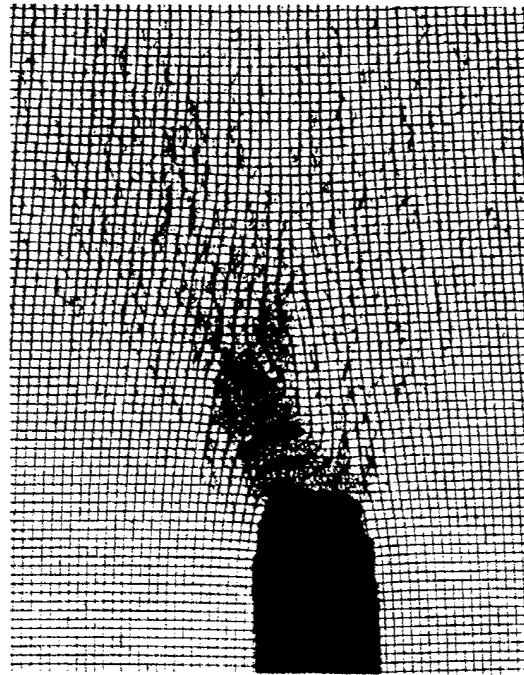
Solithane 113



Solithane 113

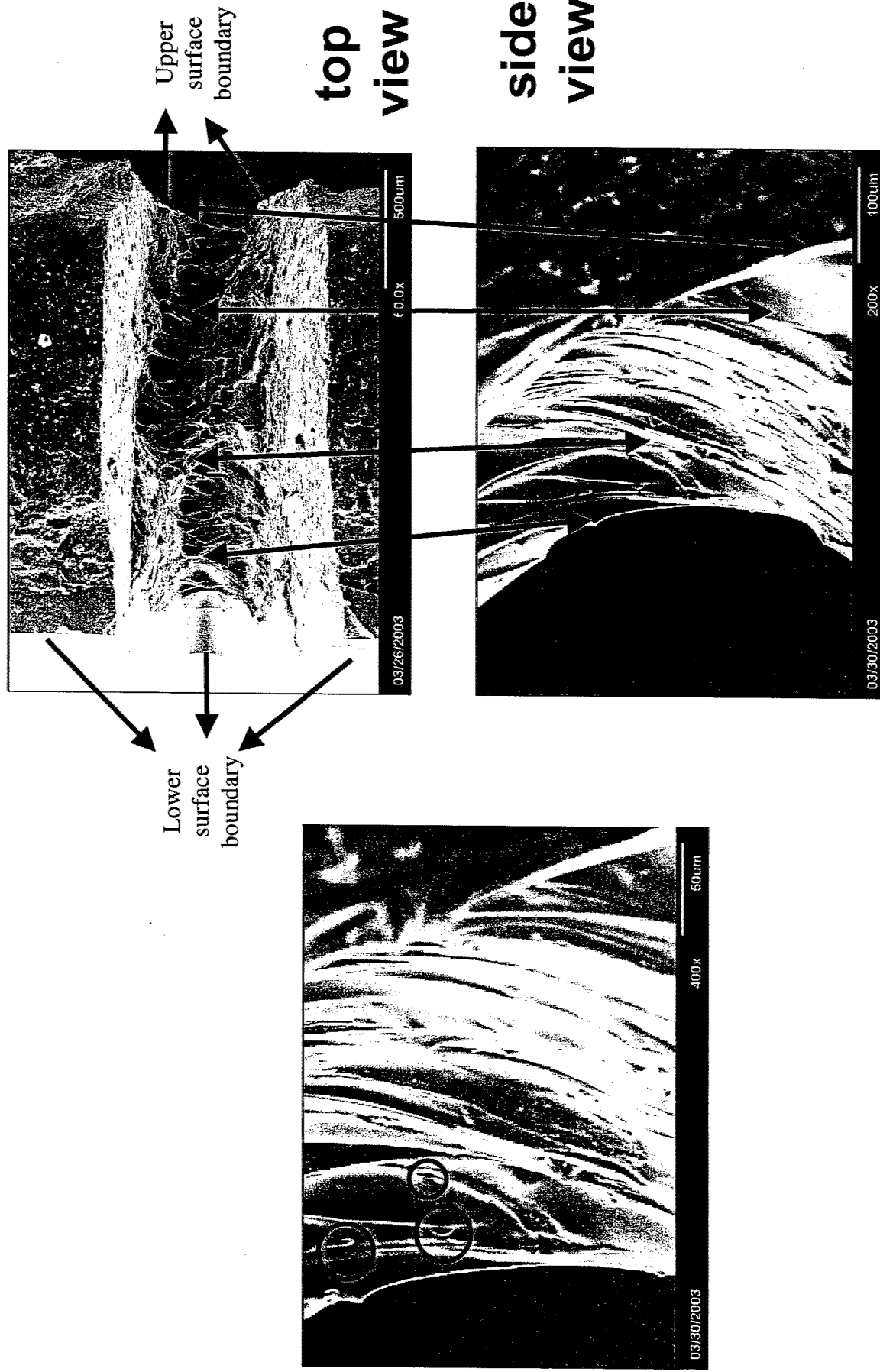


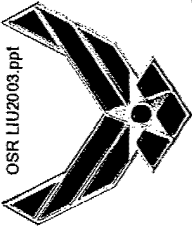
Solid Propellant



Solid Propellant

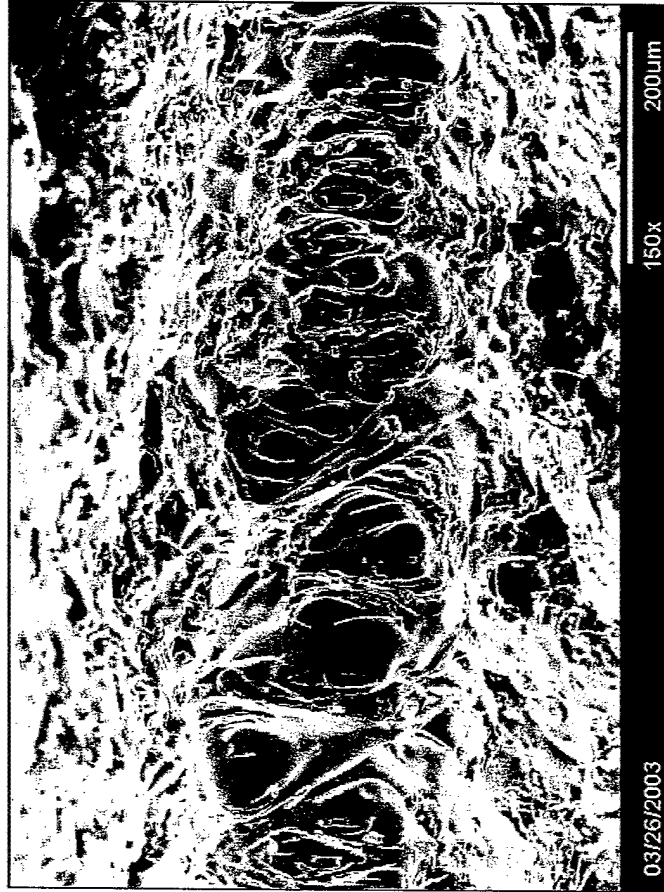
Local Deformation and Failure Mechanisms at Crack Tip (TPEG)



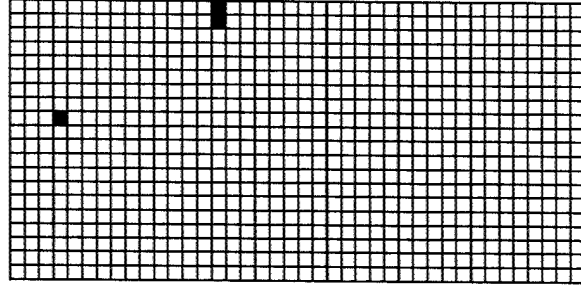


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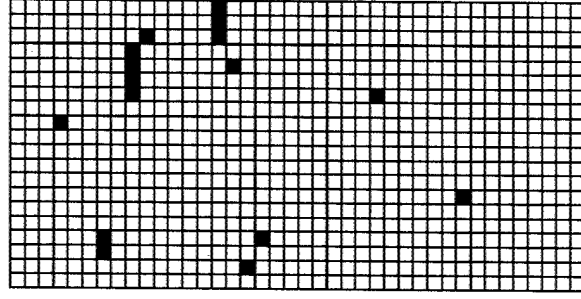
Local Deformation and Failure Mechanisms at Crack Tip (Composite Material)



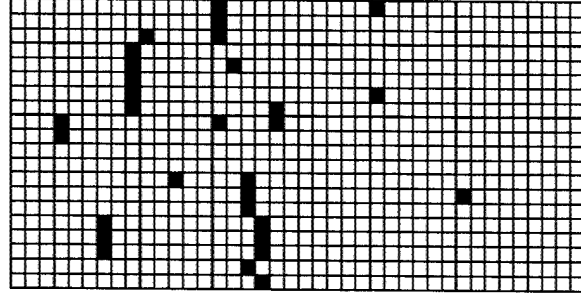
Numerical Simulation on Damage Initiation and Evolution



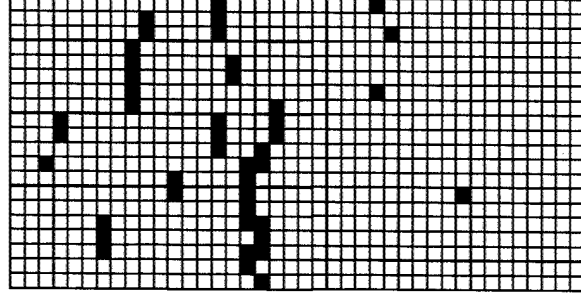
applied strain level
0.109 [m/m]



applied strain level
0.121 [m/m]

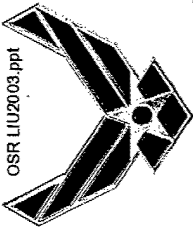


applied strain level
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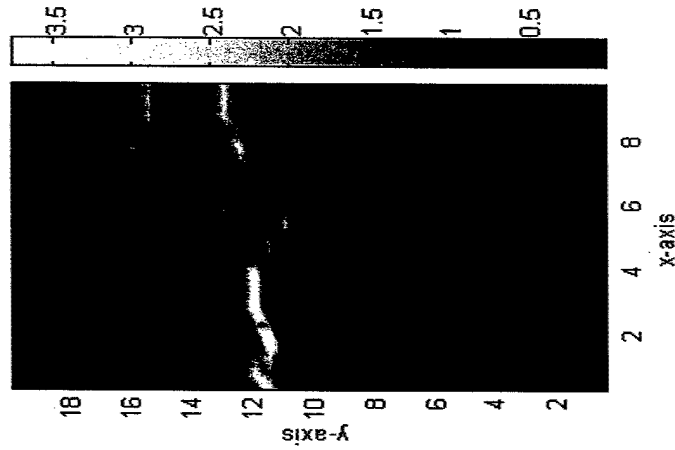


applied strain level
0.134 [m/m]

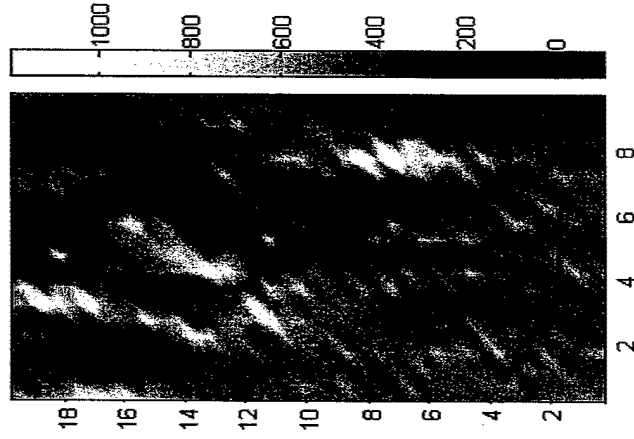
- Based on meso-macromechanical multi-level analyses, the simulated damage processes under a constant strain rate condition compares well with experimental observation.
- The coalescence of neighboring non-propagating crack results in breakage of the specimen.



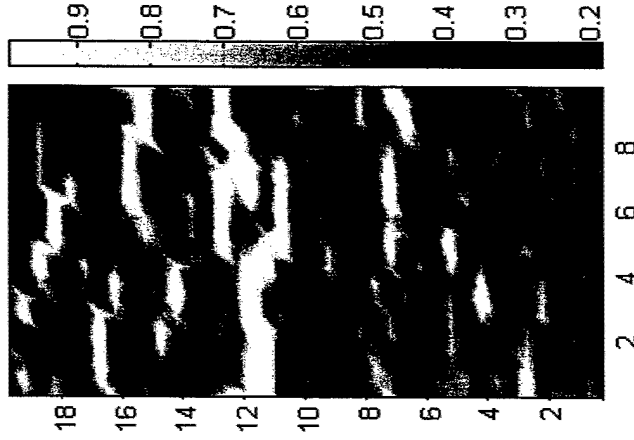
Distributions of Damage, Macro-Normal Strain and Macro-Normal Stress Prior to Specimen Fracture



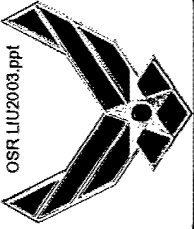
Macro-Normal Strain



Macro-Normal Stress



Damage Distribution



Multi-Scale Approach to Investigate the Tensile and Fracture Behavior of Nano Composite Materials.



Conclusions:

- Microstructure has a significant effect on the strain fields on the meso scale.
- The local deformation mechanisms (large displacement and ligament formation) near the crack tip for the three material studied are similar but the damage mechanisms are different.
- Base on the multi-scale analysis, the damage initiation and evolution processes compare well with experimental observation.
- Based on the multi-scale analysis, the damage distribution prior to specimen fracture is similar (different) to the macro strain distribution (macro stress distribution).
- The developed multi-scale analysis technique is a promising technique to model and simulate the microstructural effect on damage initiation and evolution processes in a solid propellant.